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## Debate over Punkeydoodles Corners redevelopment continues

Perth County deferred a decision to support while Wilmot wants more done



An aerial view of Punkeydoodles Corners. (Photo credit: Bryn Gladding Fine Art & Photography)

By Lee Griffi, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The planned road construction at the highly controversial hamlet is in limbo following recent Perth County Council and Wilmot Township Council meetings.

Wilmot met earlier this week to table the same plan approved by Oxford County Council recently to see work on the roadways in the area completed sometime in 2024. That plan needs approval from the two other councils to proceed as the three are required to cost share the projected \$1

million price tag.

Following four presentations from area residents, Wilmot councillors discussed at length what they felt was the best plan going forward and eventually agreed on a motion that was unanimously approved. The motion accepted the recommended improvements and also requested that the Region of Waterloo take over Wilmot's portion of Oxford Road 5 as it meets the criteria of a regional road due to volume, traffic types, and its inter-region usage. Councillors also passed an additional motion that stated, "The Township of Wilmot

strongly calls upon Oxford County, Perth County, and the Region of Waterloo to immediately work together collectively to reduce speeds in and around the area of Punkeydoodles Corners, and further, that staff explore further refinements including moving forward with a roundabout." These approved motions are all being tabled and likely voted on at the Region of Waterloo's regular meeting this week.

Councillor Lillianne Dunstall was one of the most outspoken elected officials. The consultant originally hired by Ox-

*Continued on page 2*

## County offering up Christmas recycling tips

By Lee Griffi, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Oxford County is hoping to see less holiday waste at the landfill this season.

A release from the county said gift wrap and excess packaging can have a significant environmental impact. It added residents can make a difference by choosing products with minimal packaging and gift wrap options that are easily recycled.

Frank Gross, who manages the county's waste management department, said they do see an increase in garbage at the curbside during the holidays. He has some advice for county residents to hopefully reduce the waste volume. "We want to remind residents that they have some choices to consider products with minimal packaging, like using reusable bags and wrapping paper that is non-foil-based so it can be recycled." He added items such as ribbons and bows can be reused over and over again to reduce the impact on area landfills. The county is also reminding us to remove all tape, plastic film, twist ties, and other objects before recycling cardboard packaging, and to break down, flatten, and bundle all cardboard boxes, with bundles no larger than 75 x 75 x 20 centimetres.

One waste product that often makes its way to the landfill is Styrofoam, but Gross said that doesn't need to be the case. "The bulky Styrofoam you would see if you bought an appliance or a television is not acceptable in the blue box program. There are drop-offs at the EnviroDepot in Woodstock and at the Tillsonburg Transfer Station." Gross added that any Oxford County resident could use the Woodstock facility, although anyone outside is subject to a tipping fee, but not for Styrofoam.

The county has also had to rejig a portion of its garbage and recycling schedule over

*Continued on page 2*



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COMMUNITY —

# Punkeydoodles Corners redevelopment

Continued from page 1

ford County defended his findings for what work should be done in the area, but Dunstall wasn't buying it. "I realize some of these ideas don't meet the technical requirements or the specific guidelines, I just wish sometimes people who are making these recommendations might live in that area for a year. I understand what you are saying, I understand the numbers and all that information, but I think there is more here at play than that." Dunstall's comments echoed those of her fellow councillors during the discussion as they prioritized common sense over rules and regulations.

Councillor Harvir Sidhu grew up in Tavistock and is very familiar with the Punkeydoodles area, so much so that the first time he went into a wintry ditch as a young man was in the area. "This is a tough intersection on the nicest days, let alone in the winter. It's not safe. Frankly, I'm surprised it has taken this long to consider or do something about it." Like the residents who live in the area, Sidhu added he, too, can't wrap his head around why lowering the speed limit isn't something that has already been implemented, something experts have said will not improve safety. "We have distracted driving, high speeds, multiple intersections. While I respect the reports that say a roundabout is not required and doesn't meet the criteria, I'm sorry, but common sense would show that it would work here." He added he fully agrees there needs to be a speed reduction but, at the same time, supports the plan to make the approved improvements in 2024. "Is this plan perfect, no, but we can't sit back and do nothing."

Perhaps the most emotional delegation of the night was made by another former Tavistock resident, Bryn Gladding, who now lives in the area. He began by bringing attention to the tragic death of a 22-year-old local woman one year ago in a tragic colli-

sion. "We continue to press the counties for speed changes and a roundabout solution. Small changes have been implemented, but on November 25, we experienced another collision at Oxford Road 5 and Road 101. We feel as a community the counties are hearing us, but no one is listening." Gladding, who has done a tremendous amount of research not only into creating a roundabout in the area but also into the response by emergency crews, gave members of council numbers to ponder as his voice shook throughout. "Here are some of our Punkeydoodles statistics. Eight is the number of collisions that have traumatized our community since October 2022. 22 is the age of our friend and neighbour who lost her life. One ambulance to save her sister's life. 28 dispatched police vehicles since (then). 17, the number of fire trucks dispatched. 55 volunteer firefighters have had to leave their families and work to respond to respond to these collisions. 11 is the number of EMS responders and their vehicles and teams. 10 is the number of tow trucks needed to clean up the collisions, not including vehicles that have ended up in the ditch and been towed out without being documented. This is all in the last year."

During its regular meeting last week, Perth County Council voted to defer any decision until council members could be provided more information. Warden Rhonda Ehgoetz said they want to make the right decision. "We had several delegations who had questions about speed, roundabout and one presenter had an alternative route that could be looked at. Once we have talked to the consultant and asked questions, we will see what direction council goes. It was nice to hear from the residents who live there and what they are experiencing." Members of council will again discuss the proposal for Punkeydoodles Corners at their regular meeting on December 21.

# Ideas to reduce holiday waste

Continued from page 1

Christmas, something Gross said will affect two areas. "There is no curbside collection on Christmas Day and on New Year's Day, which both fall on Mondays. Those municipalities that normally get collection on Monday, the north part of Ingersoll and Zorra Township, they'll get collection on alternate days." The two areas will instead have service on the two

Saturdays beforehand, December 23 and December 30. The Oxford County Waste Management Facility in Salford is closed on Christmas and Boxing Days, as well as New Year's Day. "The Woodstock EnviroDepot will have normal operating hours as well as a couple of bonus days on the Friday before Christmas and New Year's. Users can go to the Oxford County website for full details," added Gross.

*Happy Holidays!!*

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COMMUNITY —

## Sakura House fundraiser returns to Woodstock in 2024



Layne "The Auctionista", left, auctions off a handbag during a previous event. Layne will once again be the auctioneer for the 11th annual Handbags for Hospice.

By Lee Griffi, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The number one fundraising event for Oxford County's only hospice is coming back in early 2024.

VON Oxford, VON Sakura House Hospice, and the volunteer Handbags for Hospice Committee are pleased to bring Handbags for Hospice back for its 11th year. Co-Chairs for the event are Jill Roberts and Allie Neeb, and Roberts said they're excited to hold the event after a pandemic pause. "We obviously had a bit of a COVID hiatus, so this is our big comeback." She added the money raised is extremely important for the existence of the hospice. "It costs over \$1 million to operate Sakura House. We fundraised approximately \$175,000 at our last event. That's almost 20 per cent of the operating costs." While the operation does receive some government support it relies heavily on community support. "To ensure it is available to the entire community for free, we do have to raise substantial funds throughout the year."

Roberts explained she didn't know much about Sakura House until a close relative utilized the hospice service and she quickly realized how special it is. "It wasn't until my mother-in-law became very sick with cancer and decided she wanted to go there. I am telling you, from the moment we walked through the doors with her it was the biggest sense of relief I have ever experienced in my life. Our kids were little, and the staff would take go with them to watch movies. They would make us baked goods and meals. They not only took care of my mother-in-law, but they also took care of us." She added that once her experience was over it stuck with her and most of the members of the event's committee. "Anyone who chooses to use the services of Sakura House walks away with the same feeling of the impact it made, making a tough situation bearable, and almost peaceful." Roberts went on to say it may be a heavy cause, but it's an incredibly fun night. "We talk about it being about the power of the purse. A lot of companies will sponsor the event and they will use the tickets they get for a night out

for the women at their office. People use it as team building because it's fun. Great food, drinks, awesome prizes, purses, candy, what else could you ask for?"

The night features the always entertaining Auctionista who is well renowned for their flamboyant style. "When Layne takes the stage, they command the audience really get that room hopping for sure. Layne's part of the evening is the live auction when they will auction off some high-end handbags and also some live experiences." Some of those include an overnight glamping package which is a night for two with a spa and dining gift certificate. "We are also bringing back our local firefighters so we will be auctioning off a dinner where some of them come to your house, and bring all the fixings for a fantastic meal including a chef. They'll serve the dinner as well."

Tickets are on sale via Eventbrite are \$95 each. Each table will hold eight attendees. More details along with the link for tickets can be found at <http://vonsakurahouse.com/events/handbags-for-hospice-2/>. Nearly 1000 tickets are available and close to 800 have already been sold. "It would be a great gift for companies if they wanted to send some of their staff, or people buying it for their wives, daughters, anyone who wants to come out and have a fun night," added Roberts. Donations for the event's premium prize table are also still welcome and she added they also have a special fundraising portion of the night. "Each year we fundraise for a specific need and this year we will be looking to raise \$75,000. to redo each of the 10 patient rooms. Paint, décor, fridges, new beds, everything. That's a really exciting part of the night."

Sakura House, located in Woodstock, is the county's only residential hospice and is operated by the Victorian Order of Nurses. It is a palliative care facility where 24-hour end-of-life care is provided by a skilled team of healthcare professionals with the assistance of professionally trained volunteers at no cost to patients or their families.

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# COMMUNITY —

## Wellesley Jingle Run raises \$805

The Wellesley Jingle Run took place throughout the village on Saturday, December 9th. The large group of festively dressed participants raised about \$805 that will be split between the Wellesley & District Lions Club and Woolwich Counselling Centre.



Some of the participants in the Wellesley Jingle Run, which took place on Saturday, December 9, and raised about \$805.



The funds from this event will be split between the Wellesley & District Lions Club and Woolwich Counselling Centre.



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COMMUNITY —

# Perth East mayor named warden

By Lee Griffi, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Rhonda Ehgoetz will serve a second consecutive term as warden in Perth County. The Mayor of Perth East ran unchallenged for the job following an election last week at the council's temporary home at Perth County's Paramedic Services' Headquarters in Stratford.

The warden is elected by council each year and the successful candidate holds the term for one year. "I am honoured and humbled that my colleges have confidence in me to be Warden again for another year," said Ehgoetz. "We've accomplished a lot over the past 12 months, and I look forward to continuing that excellent work in the coming year. We are in an exciting time at Perth County. Over the next year we expect to see the completion of several important projects such as the County's New Official Plan. I have thoroughly enjoyed my role and having the opportunity to meet many residents and stakeholders across Perth County."

Municipalities across the area are facing some difficult financial decisions as they head into budget discussions. Ehgoetz said that along with completing construction at the county building are currently her two top priorities. "We are doing renovations at the courthouse and looking forward to having it done in 2024. A connecting link will connect the courthouse and 5 Huron Street (in Stratford). It will be great when it is done, and all staff are in one building. Rising costs are a concern as we begin our budget deliberations. We want to keep all our existing services and still make it affordable for our residents."

Ehgoetz has been involved in local politics for twenty-three years, thirteen of them on Perth County Council. She was elected as Deputy Warden for three years from 2019-2022. She said her love for the municipality



Perth County Warden Rhonda Ehgoetz.

keeps her around. "Perth County has been my home all of my life, I want it to be a great place to live, work, and play. Our children and grandchildren live here, and I do it for them, so they have a great place to call home. Being on council is my way of giving back to my community."

In addition to the election of Ehgoetz as Warden, Doug Kellum, Deputy Mayor for North Perth, was acclaimed to the role of Deputy Warden for a second term. "I am grateful for the opportunity to continue to serve as Deputy Warden," said Kellum. "We

have an excellent council and I look forward to continuing our momentum in cultivating opportunity in our vibrant region."

"On behalf of County staff, I want to extend my heartfelt congratulations to Warden Ehgoetz and Deputy Warden Kellum on their respective acclamations," said Chief Administrative Officer Lori Wolfe. "Staff are excited and eager to continue working together with Council over the coming year toward the goals of our new Corporate Strategic Plan."

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COMMUNITY —

# Santa arrived in Shakespeare on Saturday



On Saturday, Santa Claus called on his elves to help him hand out candy bags on behalf of the village's Men's Club and afterward, they helped kids from the area with arts and crafts. Village kids were invited to talk to Santa and take part in the activities in the gymnasium at Sprucedale Public School, with the first annual Christmas in the Village celebration.



Stratford Aces hockey team, with Shakespeare connections, were happy being part of the village's parade celebrations.

By Gary West

The village of Shakespeare was the place to be on Saturday, December 9, as area residents celebrated Christmas in the Village - and for the first time, had a full day of activities following the Santa Claus parade.

These included the village Carver Kings, carving various wood pieces and demonstrating their craft all day. There were also kids games and pictures with Santa in nearby Sprucedale Public School, a food and toy drive at the fire hall, vendors with hot food, along with the petting zoo beside the Shakespeare Brewery and from 5 p.m. until 7 p.m. The night

ended with live music outside at the Shakespeare Brewing Company.

With temperatures reaching 12 degrees Celsius, and more green grass than snow, organizers were happy that those busy activities that were planned went off without a hitch.

**Various activities in Shakespeare on Saturday**

This year, for the first time in Shakespeare, following the Santa Claus parade, a small organizing committee made sure that residents in the Shakespeare area were celebrating Christmas in the Village in a big way.

Volunteers included Barb Myers, Lindsay Higgins and Katie Anderson Gautreau, who were the instigators of the day along with Sydney McCourt from the Perth East Recreation committee, who got involved in providing educational arts and crafts for kids in Sprucedale Public School after the parade.

There was a whirlwind of activities going on all day at the Carver Kings and near the Shakespeare Brewery on Main Street.

Organizers are hoping that Christmas in the Village can be an annual event every year, following the Santa Claus parade in early December.



As usual, Santa was there at the tail end of the parade to wish everyone the best of the season, and hoped all area kids will appreciate the gifts he leaves when he comes back on Christmas Eve.



Organizer Katie Anderson Gautreau, welcomes everyone to the activities, while musician Jonathan Marsh plays instrumental music to keep the crowd energized.



The Shakespeare Firefighters got involved in Christmas in the village celebrations, by collecting non-perishable food items and toys to give to local families in need this time of year.



The SCAA (Shakespeare Community Athletic Association) from left, President Kristene Ankenmann, Deb Bell, Cathy Glaab, and Roslyn McLaren are always a big part of working at organizing sports in Shakespeare.



# COMMUNITY —

## Perth County's Jade Dill-a 4-H champion with 130 completed clubs at 16

By Gary West

Great things are happening for a young North Easthope teenager in 4-H.

Jade Dill who lives with her family near the hamlet of Hampstead, has always competed well in the 4-H dairy calf clubs among many others, but now she is showing her expertise in sewing education.

At the recent Perth County Awards night in Mitchell, Jade was awarded the Delta Power Equipment Champion 4-H

Educational Display Trophy.

She entered her Brodhagen Sewing Club display board into competition at the Mitchell Fall Fair in September, and came away with the win.

There are not many 4-H members who complete 130 clubs but Jade Dill has done exactly that.

The 16-year old-student attends Stratford District Secondary School and her mom, Kirsten Dill, says she lives and breathes 4-H.



Jade Dill proudly displays her Delta Power Equipment championship trophy at the Perth County 4-H Awards Banquet in Mitchell.

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COMMUNITY —

# A Mennonite Farrier showed his craft in Oxford County

By Gary West

There are not many people in the world who can say they have stuck at the same job for more than 56 years and have not even thought about retirement.

Add to that - the job has been as a "farrier," or in layman's terms, a person who trims and shoes horses feet.

David Jantzi, from Millbank, is well known in horse circles as one of the best there is at his craft.

When we caught up to him he was trimming the giant feet on a four-year-old Purebred Clydesdale Horse named Ida, at the Elizabeth and Bruce Burrill facility near Hickson, in East Zorra-Tavistock township, in Oxford county.

The horse is owned by Gord Doughty of Jarvis, who trailered Ida to the farm where Jantzi was working, to save some travelling time.

The very personable Jantzi, started trimming horses at the age of 15, in 1967, and most who know what the job entails, would wonder how his back could withstand the

"backbreaking" work for all those years.

He said, with a smile, that he has "always loved doing what he does, and feels he has been so blessed to do what he does, working on horses that he enjoys, along with working with interesting horse owners."

Obviously living in the area he does, in the Mennonite community, he is kept very busy trimming and shoeing buggy horses for farm families in his area of Perth and Waterloo counties.

He does a lot of his work in his own shop, and when working miles from home, horse owners come and pick him up and take him home, at the end of the job. They feel lucky to be able to have his expertise in looking after their animals, some of which end up competing at various shows throughout the province.

He says he could write a book on all the locations he has travelled to for his work, but did say towns such as Dundalk, Tiverton, Simcoe, Strathroy and closer to home, horses come from Wellesley, Linwood, Elmira and Milverton, to name a few.

During the interview, he also said he has foot trimmed and provided quality shoes for horse-pulling horses, and standard-bred race horses, and when asked, said with a smile, he had to have "handled thousands of horses during his lifetime."

As if trimming horse and pony feet was not enough, he also blacksmiths his own "Scotch Bottom Shoes" for show draft horses, where he starts with a length of flat iron and makes it into a 3/8x1 1/2" and 20" long horse-shoe hand made for each individual horse, and the price is a mere \$15 (Amazon, take note!). He ships them off to six states in the northern U.S., as well as the UK, and some to Scotland.

There are many stories written about experts in their field, but Millbank's David Jantzi, would have to be one that is remembered by his community as one who could trim and put shoes on a horse with the best of them anywhere in the country, from humble beginnings from a small Perth County Mennonite community.



David Jantzi trimming the front foot on Ida, a show winning Clydesdale while owner, Gord Doughty, looks on from the halter.



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# Shop Local: L1FE Outdoors

By Veronica Reiner

L1FE Outdoors is a local, family-run company that operates a full-service shop, devoted to the excellence of maintaining ATVs, UTVs, and side-by-sides.

Based on Hamilton Road in New Hamburg, the business has been run by married couple, Connie Straus and Mac Foy, for about four-and-a-half years. "We love the town, it's awesome - small community, everybody loves each other, and it's friendly," said Connie in an interview.

Connie grew up in the St. Agatha area, while Mac grew up north in Elliot Lake. When asked why they decided to open up in the New Hamburg area, Connie said, "My husband and I live in the St. Agatha area now, and we're not city people - we're small town people. So we didn't want to drive into the city. And I feel that our industry speaks to small town farmers, not necessarily the city person, so we wanted to be in that environment."

The shop gets local visitors, along with some customers from further out, including Ottawa, Niagara, and Muskoka.

L1FE Outdoors boasts a wide array of ATVs, UTVs, and side-by-sides in stock, along with an all-encompassing selection of parts and accessories for any brand, featuring OEM parts for a variety of models.

The business offers enhancement components such as lift kits, forward arched a-arms, portals, snorkels, RAD relocates, spacers, a huge selection of tires and rims, metal floor boards, heavy duty axles, along with clutching and tuning adjustments that go along with some of these modifications. They also offer add-ons such as shift knobs, stylish fuel covers, thermal grip warmers for hands and thumbs, various cargo containers for front or backs of the vehicle, gun boots tailored to hunting enthusiasts, easily attached fuel holders, and more.

Also on offer is protective riding apparel encompassing headgear such as helmets, eye protection like goggles, handling aids including gloves, and a selection of moisture-resistant waders to insulating jackets and durable footwear solutions for riders.

"We winterize ATVs and UTVs for people who want to use them through the winter," said Connie. "So we add snow plow attachments, tracks so they can drive through the snow without getting stuck, enclosures to keep people warm, and cab heaters. That would be the kind of thing we're doing in the winter."

In addition, L1FE Outdoors performs maintenance on off-road vehicles, such as oil changes. The business is well stocked with supplies including oil, grease, brake fluid, coolant, cleaners, oil filters, air filters and batteries. They also offer an extensive array of parts for replacement



The team at L1FE Outdoors.

such as u-joints, ball joints, brake pads, bearings, bushings, axles and seals.

Connie noted that each member of the team has extensive knowledge about the vehicles. When asked what helped the business stand out, she said, "I honestly think it's our enthusiasm for the sport. Every single member that works here - most of them, anyways - ride. We're riders ourselves. And we love the sport. Our parts guys know everything about ATVs."

"Our guys know the products - they know it, they love it, they live it, they breathe it."

In the service shop, L1FE Outdoors uses a dyno (a treadmill for ATV's and UTV's) to make performance adjustments to ensure machines are running at optimal levels.

In addition, L1FE Outdoors participates in the off-road community, engaging in numerous events both as hosts and participants. Their crew is often found at competitive races and frequents prominent off-roading meets, including the SXSBlog Racetober event in Michigan. The Minden Off-Road Park Event stands out as a testament to the organization's community engagement, and offers a chance for heartfelt interactions over a casual barbecue with those who support them.

"We are from here, we have roots here, we're family run, we're a small team," said Connie. "We really are a good crew here. We're knowledgeable, and we've got a good service department. Come on in; we'll take care of you."

In addition, L1FE Outdoors is holding a promotion. Those who enter the store and spend \$250 get a free T-shirt. Anyone who comes in and spends more than \$500 gets a camp chair instead of the T-shirt.

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# COMMUNITY —



**The Holy Family CWL Annual Draw was held on November 18, 2023**

**The winners are:**

- Prize \$700 - Jon Reimer, New Hamburg
- Prize \$500 - Carolyn Letreanu, Meaford
- Prize Royal Dolton and \$100 - Debbie Brighton, New Dundee
- Prize Gift Basket from Town Square Pharmacy - Gerry Lehman
- Prize Drayton Festival Tickets - Kathryn Graham, Plattsville
- Prize \$200 - Tony Hergott, Baden
- Prize \$200 - Aidee Rodriguez Gomez, Kitchener
- Prize \$200 - Maureen Kelly, Baden
- Prize \$200 - Kathryn Graham, Plattsville
- Prize \$200 - E Holst, New Hamburg

*Thank you to everyone that supported our annual draw either by buying tickets or selling them. Thank you to everyone that donated prizes.*

**Holy Family CWL, New Hamburg**



## THANK YOU

### Kropf

I would like to thank all of my friends, neighbours and relatives for all of the support, cards, phone calls, text messages and food you have given me in the months prior to and upon Sherman's passing.

A special thank you to the Hickson Fire fire-fighters past and present for their presence and honour guard at Sherman's funeral service and the farewell siren as he left the church. We were deeply touched and proud of the beautiful tribute in front of the Hickson fire hall.

Thank you to Rev. Mary Boland who performed the service and the Grace United Church ladies for the delicious luncheon.

Our deepest appreciation to Dr. Stacey Snider for looking after Sherman through his struggles, to the Stratford General Hospital physicians and nurses, to the London Regional Cancer Program and Dr. Saini and to Sakura house and their amazing, compassionate staff.

Last but not least to my amazing family for all of their love and continued support.

Sincerely,  
Nancy Kropf

## WORSHIP IN WILMOT TOWNSHIP

**St George's Anglican Church**  
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sgacnewhamburg@gmail.com  
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## Christmas Eve Service



Steinmann Mennonite Church  
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6:30 p.m.


In-person & Livestream  
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Welcome!

## At This Time Of Year...

*Thoughts turn to loved ones, both past and present,  
Of happy childhood memories  
Unwrapping toys, helping with the baking and licking the bowl,  
Remembering always their kindness and love.  
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# COMMUNITY —

## The Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette Weekly Quiz

1. Who directed Terminator 2: Judgement Day?
2. Which berries give gin its strong flavor?
3. How many ribs are in the human body?
4. What is the capital of India?
5. What do you call a group of crows?
6. Which country has the most winter Olympic medals?
7. The shortest day of the year is known as what?
8. Who was the lead singer of the band Queen?
9. What currency is used in Japan?
10. Blue and yellow mixed together make what color?

Answers found on page 22

# BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

### Birthdays and Anniversaries

*Does someone in your family have a special day coming up? Let us know at [thewtgazette@gmail.com](mailto:thewtgazette@gmail.com) to appear in our Birthdays and Anniversaries listing or to arrange for a special announcement ad.*

**December 14:** Happy birthday to Chloe Wettlaufer (12) and Alaina Lederman (16)

**December 15:** Happy birthday to Bo Herlick (6), Sylas Boomer (10), Aline Smith (12), Jack Green (22), and anniversary for Jeremy and Donna Bartlett.

**December 16:** Happy birthday to Logan Herlick (13) and Ryan Cook.

**December 17:** Happy birthday to Myra Hendry (12).

**December 18:** Happy birthday to Jack Zehr (10), Zoe Spenler (18), Matthew Schultz (20), and Abbey Patton (23).

**December 19:** Happy birthday to Evie Lind (5) and Carl Zehr.

**December 20:** Happy birthday to Denise McLachlin.

# The Old Gazettes

By Jake Grant

*Slowly but surely, I'm reading through the past pages of the Tavistock Gazette (est. 1895). Within this weekly column I'd like to share with you some of my findings.*

### December 10-17, 2013, Edition (10 years ago)

The ladies of Hebron United Church, East Zorra, baked 500 dozen cookies last weekend for their fourth annual Cookie Walk fundraiser. About 474 dozen were sold. The ones left over will be used for social time after the Christmas Concert on Sunday.

The former Grant Fox Orchards peach plant, a Shakespeare landmark for decades was demolished last week. The buildings were built by Leamington-area orchard owner Grant Fox in the 1940s and later sold to Zig and Margaret Nickel.

### December 09-16, 2003, Edition (20 years ago)

After years of fundraising the Tavistock Fire Department has taken delivery of their new hydraulic rescue equipment. Ken Gibb, a full-time firefighter and extrication specialist for equipment supplier A. J Stone Co. Ltd., held a training session with Tavistock firefighters on Saturday morning, December 6, 2003. The TNT brand equipment consists of a variable speed cutter, combination spreader and spreader jaw, two rams with extension, a lightweight compact 4-cycle Honda 6.5 hp engine-powered two-stage piston pump and more.

Perth County OPP were called to a report of vandalism at the new community complex in Shakespeare. The vandalism has happened several times since it has been built. The complex has had picnic tables smashed and graffiti on the wall, and in the most recent act of vandalism, a wall spray painted with profanities.

### December 7-14, 1983, Edition (40 years ago)

After 591 sitting days, the First Session of Canada's Thirty-Second Parliament was finally brought to a close last Wednesday with a speech from the Governor General. This has been the longest Parliamentary Session in Canadian history, far surpassing the previous mark of 343 sitting days, set in the 1974-1976 session.

Students of the Grade 8's from the Tavistock Public School were busy around the Village last Tuesday, November 29th, decorating windows in several business places for Christmas. At the Post Office, Wendy Zehr and Crystal Ruby were hard at work painting a nativity scene on the lobby window while inside Jennifer Sommers, Lori Langille, Shay-anne Bender, Anna Loschnig and Tammy Roth depicted Santa Claus, the trees and all the Christmas frivolities.

November was indeed an enjoyable and busy month at The Maples. The first week of November was designated as "German Week" and this was an enjoyable one. Throughout the week films were shown which gave us some

idea of life in Germany.

The December meeting of the Braemar WI was held at the home of Mary Walton. Mrs. Lorne Walton opened the program with a reading on the motto "Get off your Donkey". She introduced the speaker for the evening, Emma Jean Apps, who spoke on the stark reality of hard pornography in our society. She said the large silent majority has to step in and stop this and urged members to get off their donkey and write to their MP.

### December 4-11, 1963, Edition (60 years ago)

Tavistock's Memorial Hall was the gathering place Thursday night when Oxford County Warden Peter McDonald and Mrs. McDonald entertained 300 guests at the annual warden's banquet.

Of the 476 homes and business places receiving water from the Tavistock Public Utilities Commission, there are 15 outside the corporation limits. This was shown in the interim statement of the Water Department of the annual nomination meeting last Monday night.

Two East Zorra township schools SS No. 3 and SS No. 9 are to be closed shortly and classes moved to the new addition at a central school at Innerkip. Township school area trustee Ray Hilderly said the final two rooms of the school's \$137,000 addition have been completed and classes from the two sections will be attending the central school "within a week or so".

## WORSHIP WITH US!

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#### Christmas Eve Service

2:00 pm December 24, 2023

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COMMUNITY —

# Local church youth donate gift baskets to area aid agencies

By Gary West

There are so many organizations in the area at Christmastime that feel the importance and urgency of giving to those less fortunate.

The youth at Grace United Church have again, this year, worked hard to promote and sponsor Project Good Tidings while working along with members of the congregation at the church.

The Grace UC Youth invited groups, committees, and organizations of the church family to join in this annual project.

Each group was invited to fill one basket, or perhaps even two or three for a local aid agency. The Christmas Place, Tavistock Assistance Program (TAP), Optimism Place and Shelterlink Youth Services, were the agencies selected for 2023.

Youth coordinator Carol Young said "these agencies and organizations work with children, youth



The congregation on Sundays service at Grace United Church, were able to see in the sanctuary, the dozens of bushel baskets filled with toys and gifts to make sure all children in the area have a joy-filled Christmas.

and families, all year round, and at Christmas time, to make a special effort to extend to their clients, the joy and love that many of us feel and enjoy this time of year."

Young said this year, "32 bushel baskets were filled to overflowing, along

with over \$250 in gift cards and cash donations were collected."

She thanked the church family for again helping the UC youth in fulfilling their Christmas wish that everyone experiences a joyful and happy holiday season.

## POLICE REPORTS

### Theft from motor vehicle in Wilmot

The Waterloo Regional Police Service (WRPS) responded to a residence in the area of Forrest Ave West and Eby Crescent in Wilmot Township for a report of a stolen property from a vehicle on December 7.

During the investigation, it is believed between the hours of 2:30 a.m. and 3 a.m., an unknown person smashed the vehicle window and stole property inside.

There are no suspect details and the investigation remains ongoing.

### Kitchener man charged after Wilmot multi-vehicle collision

A Kitchener man has been charged in connection to a collision in Wilmot Township.

On December 4 at about 10:10 p.m., the WRPS responded to reports of a multiple car collision in the area of Trussler Road and Oxford Waterloo Road.

A Ford truck was travelling north on Trussler when it collided with a Mercedes SUV and a Ford SUV that were travelling south on Trussler. Both drivers were transported to a local hospital, and both received non-life-threatening injuries.

As a result of the investigation, the driver of the Ford truck, a 33-year-old Kitchener man was charged with "careless driving causing bodily harm," and "driver fail to properly wear a seatbelt."

*Christmas Worship*

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COMMUNITY —

# Tim Gray: A hidden gem in our community

By Scott Dunstall

Jim Wettlaufer was a stellar member of the New Hamburg Optimist Club. Rising from the sadness of his passing was the request by his family to commission an annual award to be bestowed on the New Hamburg Optimist of the Year. This is not an honour that is selected by one person or a panel. It is a balloted vote open to all members of the club. On December 4, at the club's December dinner meeting, Tim Gray was recognized by his peers and awarded the Jim Wettlaufer Memorial Award for outstanding service to the community and the Optimist Club of New Hamburg.

Tim Gray is the epitome of good citizenship. You've probably stood behind him at the grocery store. Maybe he's a familiar face at local community events. Or, you may know him from his decades of living in Wilmot. Regardless, there may be things you don't know about Tim.

He currently sits on the New Hamburg Optimist Board of Directors as Treasurer and Executive member. He began his Optimist "career" as early as 1985 as a member of the Baden Optimist Club. When the Baden club folded in 1995, he became a member of the New Hamburg Club and adjusted quickly to his new surroundings and members. So much so that he became President of the Club during the 98-99 operating year. Parallel to that time, he also held the position of Lieutenant General for the local zone, which included all six Optimist Clubs in Wilmot, AND held a district (another level up from zone), positions as Secretary-Treasurer and also Membership Chair. Throughout all those years, he has held his position as club treasurer. And there is more. The Optimists hold several community events and fundraisers throughout the year. Each one of those requires a committee to make it happen. While Tim is involved in every initiative from an accounting perspective, but he is also an active member on the committees that he has either sat on or chaired. These include: Annual Pumpkin Carving Event, Annual Easter Egg



Left to right: Club President Scott Dunstall, Club Treasurer and Award Recipient Tim Gray, and Brian Wettlaufer, son of Jim.

Hunt, Annual Local League Hockey Tournament, Inter-Club Bowling Event, Youth Appreciation Week and more. Oh yes, his wife Kathy is a long-time member of the Wilmot Optimist Club and currently sits as the club President. I just spent a Saturday helping that club get set up for their annual Christmas Craft and Bake Sale and guess who was setting up tables and schlepping boxes in from the car? He is a very busy guy, and we, as a community, have benefitted from his dedication.

But what about Tim, the person? While you may already know some of these things about him, you may not know much about his career and family. He and Kathy have three children and seven grandchildren ranging in age from 2 to 21 (Wow!). Sarah is the oldest with three kids, Josh is next in age with two, followed by Sam, also with two children. Josh comes out on a regular basis to help with Optimist events, and he isn't even a member. The acorn doesn't fall too far from the Mighty Oak.

Tim started his business career

working at CIBC in the seventies after graduating postsecondary school in Business Administration. He later went to school for several years to work on his accounting designation. He continued working at CIBC and when an opportunity came up to work in branch audit, he jumped at it. After shoring up his financial acumen at CIBC, opportunities for career development in the financial realm at the Beer Store suddenly became legitimate possibilities for him. And he took those opportunities, starting with a role at the Kitchener Distribution Center. Next was the regional office in Guelph, then the district office in London and then finally the head office in Mississauga, working as a Business Analyst, creating unique and profitable solutions to store layouts and brand floor allocation.

Tim is not the first selfless volunteer in this community, nor will he be the last. But if you are looking for a shining example of what that person looks like, look no further than Tim Gray.



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- Elizabeth Rose, Kitchener - \$500
- Mykaela Erb, New Hamburg - \$500
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- Susana Viveiros, Calgary - \$500
- Ryan Brooks, Kitchener - \$500
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COMMUNITY —

# Egg Farmers from southwestern Ontario Travel to Nepal

By Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette Staff

There are agricultural organizations in Canada that care greatly about the food they produce and animals they care for.

The farmers and producers who direct these organizations, show day in and day out, how caring for their families has to be their number one priority, but being concerned about others in their community also ranks very high on that list.

EGG Farmers of Ontario, along with EGG Farmers of Canada, have taken it upon themselves to not only come to help and feed residents in Ontario and Canada, but also travel to parts of the world that could use their help to show how they can produce their own food with a hand up as opposed to a handout.

As this article is being written, there is a small delegation of farmers both men and

women, who have travelled to Nepal in South Asia.

This small country is home to 30 million people, with 1.4 million living in the capital of Kathmandu.

Included are three Southern Ontario Egg Farmers from Perth County who have taken up the task to travel to Nepal under a project known as RENEW-(Rights and Economic Development for Nepal's Empowered Women).

Those Egg farmers include Scott Graham and Kayla Veldman from the St. Mary's area, along with Tonya Havercamp from the Listowel area.

Egg Farmers of Ontario (EFO) has partnered with "World Accord", an organization that works to support Women around the globe that face issues, such as poverty, gender based violence, and inequality,

by providing them with opportunities to become self-sustaining, through this "RENEW" project.

A team of EGG farmers visited the regions of Makwanpur and Nuwakot districts of Nepal in late 2022, to determine the viability of women in remote villages raising EGG laying hens (chickens) as a source of high protein food and income.

Armed with training materials and resources, the team has now returned this fall to the region to share knowledge and information with the goal to further empower these women through economic and self-sufficient means.

There are many broiler chickens in the areas they are travelling in, but wanting to educate the women to manage and raise chickens to lay eggs as part of their mission, to enhance their quality of life and that of their families.

In speaking to Scott Graham while still in Nepal, he said record keeping and offering ideas to house laying hens when the weather is cooler, was some of their work, but also to help the women in these rugged regions understand how good management will go a long way in producing quality eggs.

He said their barns are very primitive, and the women in their Ontario group could feel a definite connection to the women in regions of Nepal, with whom they were in discussions and communications one-on-one.

The southwestern Ontario egg farmers answering questions through an interpreter in Nepal, supporting women and partnering with World Accord, an organization that works with women around the globe, that face poverty, gender based violence and inequality.

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# COMMUNITY —

## Wellesley ChristmasTyme Parade

By Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette Staff

The Wellesley ChristmasTyme parade took place on Friday evening, December 8.

Local service clubs, businesses and even Santa Claus himself marched down Queen's Bush (starting at the new

Wellesley Township Recreation Complex at the corner of Queen's Bush and Hutchison roads), right onto Nafziger, left onto Maple Leaf Street, and ending at the community centre.

Those that participated included the Wellesley Applejacks, Wellesley council,

Twin Centre Hericanes, First St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Wellesley Township Citizens of the Year, Wellesley Township Fall Fair Ambassador, Cressman Insulation, St. Mark's Lutheran Church, Generations Community Church, and more.

The Tree of Lights and carol singing took

place at the pond at 7:30 p.m. A craft market also took place at the Wellesley Community Centre on Maple Leaf Street on Thursday, December 7 and Friday, December 8 from 4 p.m. to 9 p.m.



The start of the Wellesley ChristmasTyme parade.



Volunteers lead the parade with the Christmas Tyme in Wellesley sign.



Firefighters give out candy to parade visitors.



Twin Centre Hericanes were part of the parade.



Wellesley Fall Fair Ambassador Katelyn Bartlett.



Santa Claus made an appearance at the end of the ChristmasTyme parade.



## SPORTS —

## Hockey teams give back to TAP



The Tavistock U13 Rep team were proud to show off all the items they gathered to donate to TAP. Back row from left: Lincoln Fuhrmann, Luka Verkuyle, Levi Fuhrmann, Will Jansen, Beckham Skillings, Brandon Bast, Kyle Kalbfleish, Blake McKay. Front row from left: Noah Leis, Jackson Bray, Keaton Roes, Rory Monroe, Garrett Bell, Greyson Gillespie

Both the U13 Rep and the U9MD teams have worked hard the past few weeks and together with their families purchased toys, gift cards, food and hygiene items and donated them to TAP (Tavistock Assistance Program). The U13 Rep team collected food, hygiene items and gas/grocery gift cards at the arena and were able to fill more than

one full hockey bag of items! They willingly came to practice early to help box up all the items and get them ready to donate.

The U9MD team collected items and sponsored a family through TAP. This team was given a "wish list" from TAP and the kids and families worked together to go out and purchase these items and donate them.



The Tavistock U9MD team give their donations to Linda Holst, program director of TAP. Back row from left: Linda Holst, Hudson Leis, Auley McKee, Lincoln Stoesser, Reid Harold, Blake Wilson, Braydon Nanasi. Front row from left: Cullen McMahon, Colt LaFleur, Oliver VanWyck, Chloe Gillespie, Myles Dunn, Landon Killing. Not pictured but part of the team: Warren and Harlan Atwell.

Some of the kids used their own money to donate and give back to their community.

The holidays are exciting for some and difficult for others, and we wanted to work together to make it a cheerful Christmas for all of our neighbours to the best of our ability.

As hockey teams we value teamwork and

realize that everything works a lot better if we can work as a team. The U13 team sent a representative to drop off donations to Linda Holst, and the U9 team met Linda at the arena and were able to give their donations directly to her! We are grateful for all the donations that were given to both of these teams, thank you Tavistock!

## ACES Win Barrie Trojan Cup

By Joni Maerten-Sanders

The Wilmot Aquatic Aces swam at the Barrie Trojan Cup meet recently where the 13 and over team brought home the first place Cup.

The team had some amazing swims lead by a pair of 10 year olds who each put up three of the fastest times in Canada this year.

Vasyl Krupynin won all seven of his events. Winning the 100 br, 200 br and 400 IM (an event he swam for the first time) gave him the fastest times this season in Canada. Other events he won in speedy times were 800 fr, 50 bk, 100 bk and 100 fr. Vasyl recorded club records in 400 IM, 100 br, 200 br, 100 fr, and 50 bk.

Not to be outdone 10 year old Anna MacDonald also came up with big swims, she also swam the 400 IM for the first time ever and put up the fastest time in Canada in that event as well as 100 br and 200 br. Anna recorded club records in 100 br, 200 br and 400 IM.

Silas Campbell, 15 years old, swam to five first place finishes and two second place finishes setting a new club record in the 1500 fr, his time in the 1500 fr is currently the 7th fastest 15 year old in Canada.

Mia Tomic swam to three new club records in the 50 fr, 100 bk and 200 bk. She won three events finished second in 2 and 3rd in the 200 br. Her time in the 200 bk ranks her 5th in Canada currently in the 15 year age group.

Evelyn Vusich 9 years qualified for her first provincial meet with a 1st place finish in the 100 br, she was also 1st in the 200 br.

Isabel Willson Swam to 1st several times during the meet winning the 800 fr, 100 br and 200 br with her 200 br time being the 15th fastest time in Canada. She also set club records in the 100 and 200 br events. She also finished 2nd in 100 fr and 400 fr

Other top performances at the meet:

Grace Bach, 14 years, won the 200 fly, second in 200 fr, 3rd in 100 fly and 800 fr.

Jacob Fowler, 14 years, won the 200 IM, second in 200 br and 800 fr, 3rd in 200 fr.

Campbell Golem, 8 years, won the 100 IM, 50 fly, 100 fr and 50 br and second in 50 bk.

Leslie Levac, 11 years, was 3rd in 50 fly.

Lucy Levac, 13 years, won the 200 fr, 2nd in 200 br, and 3rd in 200 bk.

Duncan MacDonald, 13 years, was 2nd in 200 fr and 100 fr and 3rd in 100 bk.

Calum MacLeod, 14 years, was 2nd in the 200 bk.

Taylor Murphy, 15 years, was 2nd in 200 IM and 3rd in 800 fr.

Robert Pop, 15 years, won the 200 bk, second in 200 fr, 800 fr, and 3rd in 100 fr and 50 fr.

Olivia Schaub, 12 years, was third in the 200 IM.

Ben Sos, 15 years, was 2nd in 200 br, 3rd in 800 fr, and 200 fr, and 400 fr.

Oliver Vusich, 10 years, qualified for Regionals as a 10 year old but is turning 11, soon and will have to requalify. Oliver won the 200 bk.

The Aces travel to Markham next and also have a home meet on Dec 17th.

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SPORTS —

# PJHL ROUNDUP

## Firebirds win both weekend games while Braves and Applejacks split

By Lee Griffi

Graeme Noyes stopped 35 of 38 shots to lead New Hamburg to a 5-3 win against visiting Tavistock Friday night.

Jake Thompson netted his eighth of the season to give the Firebirds a 1-0 lead but goals from Marc Dionne and Ian Glendinning allowed the Braves to start the second period with a 2-1 lead. New Hamburg scored the game's next four goals and led 5-2 by the time Trent Davies was able to beat Noye with seven minutes

remaining in the game. Matt Domm led the Firebirds offense with a goal and two assists. Dionne added an assist for Tavistock while Ryan Suljack had two helpers.

New Hamburg hosted Hespeler on Saturday and outshot the Shamrocks 53 to 36 en route to a 4-2 win. It was the Owen Fischer show as the captain and Kitchener native scored four times. He leads the team with 18 markers, just two away from his total last season. Owen Bruder chipped in two assists while rookie goalie Tony Theodoropoulos kicked out

34 shots to improve his record to 5 and 2 with a 2.39 goals against average.

The Braves did manage a split of their weekend matchups thanks to a tight 2-1 win in Hespeler on Sunday. Tavistock scored both goals in the first period including Christian Bergman's first of the season on a feed from Stephen Peppas. Nicholas Thibodeau added his eighth with Carter Arsenault and Andrew Van Boekel drawing helpers. The two teams combined to go 0 for 11 on the powerplay.

Wellesley opened their weekend with a 3-1 home loss to Norwich. Carson Wicke's seventh of the season late in the first period tied the game at one but that would be all the offense the Applejacks could muster. On Sunday they skated into Paris and came away with a 2-0 win over the last-place Titans. Owen Stoddard scored the game-winner early in the first and Dimitri Eleftheriadis added some insurance late in the frame, his first of the season. Travis Jensen kicked out all 30 shots he faced for the win.

## Royals split weekend games - remain under .500

By Lee Griffi

The Tavistock Royals had an opportunity to even their Ontario Elite Hockey League record but could only manage a split of two road games and are in seventh place with a six win and seven loss record.

The weekend started in Palmerston for a matchup with Minto where the Royals dropped a 9-4 decision to the second-place 81s. Tavistock went down 2-0 in the first seven minutes but roared back to take a 3-2 lead into the dressing room after 20 minutes of play. Adam Barr and Cam Leslie each scored their first of the season while Drew Gerth netted his fifth. Mitch Facey notched his first of the campaign in the second but the Royals were

outgunned 3-1 and trailed 5-4 after two periods. Minto scored all four goals of the third to earn the victory as they find themselves in a three-way tie for second place in the league standings.

Saturday the Royals travelled to Durham and squeaked out a 5-4 win over the Thundercats. Mike Noyes scored the eventual game-winning goal, his third of the year, with four minutes remaining in the third period on a setup from Trevor Sauder and Devin Kropf. Tavistock led 2-0 after the first on goals from Erik Robichaud and Matt Zilke. Sauder, Collin Hartwick, and Mike Noyes also scored for Tavistock who outshot their hosts 39-28.


### Tavistock Royals 2023-24 Point Leaders

PLAYER	POS	GP	G	A	PTS
Sean Kienapple	F	11	11	9	20
Drew Gerth	F	12	5	6	11
Sean Leslie	F	13	3	6	9
Erik Robichaud	F	5	3	4	7
Deven Kropf	F	11	2	5	7
Cam Leslie	D	13	1	5	6
Lucas Bast	D	11	2	4	6
Jeremy Munro	F	11	4	2	6
Mitch Facey	F	8	1	5	6
Greg Noyes	D	11	2	4	6
Trevor Sauder	F	12	3	3	6
Mike Noyes	D	9	3	3	6
Collin Hartwick	F	6	3	2	5
Adam Barr	F	11	1	4	5
Phil Edgar	F	6	3	1	4
Matt Zilke	F	10	3	1	4
Callan Christner	F	11	2	1	3
Reid Ramseyer	D	10	0	1	1
Ted Anstett	F	6	0	1	1
Chad McIntosh	F	3	0	1	1
Geoff Killing	D	2	0	1	1
Tristan Hohl	D	10	0	1	1
Graham Kitching	F	3	0	0	0
Samson Walsom	D	7	0	0	0
Zach Mark	F	1	0	0	0


### PJHL - South Doherty Division 2023-24 Point Leaders

Team	PLAYER	POS	GP	G	A	PTS
WNV	Davin Gray	F	23	9	35	44
WNV	Nolan Brett	F	23	18	19	37
NHF	Owen Fischer	F	22	18	12	30
HES	Boden White	F	19	12	18	30
HES	Jack Restauri	F	23	8	19	27
WNV	Ethan Szabo	F	18	9	17	26
NHF	Owen Bruder	F	24	11	12	23
NHF	Tyler Reid	D	21	9	14	23
WNV	Chris Coulter	D	20	10	12	22
NOR	Joel Storoschuk	F	23	9	12	21
NHF	Jake Thompson	F	23	8	13	21
NOR	Brandon Balazs	F	22	10	10	20
HES	Andrew Harris	F	22	11	8	19
TAV	Stephen Peppas	F	22	8	11	19
TAV	Nicolas Thibodeau	F	22	8	11	19
NOR	Nathan Murphy	F	21	7	11	18
WNV	Tyler Smeda	D	23	7	11	18
TAV	Ian Glendinning	F	22	6	12	18
WNV	Brodie Kearns	F	17	4	14	18
HES	Braeden Tyler	D	23	4	13	17
HES	Justin George	D	21	3	14	17
NHF	Matt Domm	D	19	1	16	17
NOR	Malcom Scott	F	22	8	8	16
NHF	Antonio Pasqualino	F	23	5	11	16

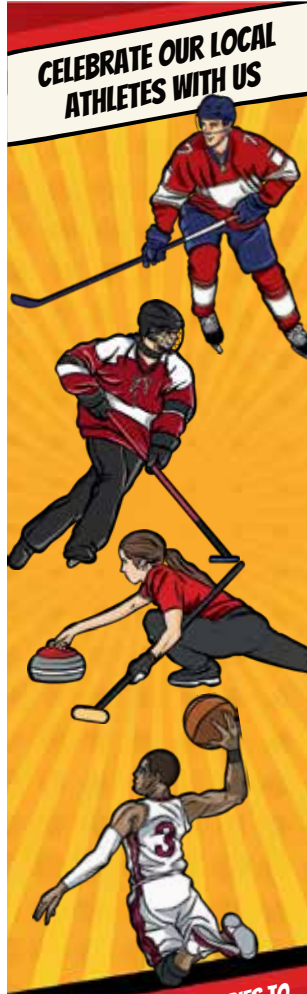
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**Tavistock Royals vs Minto 81's**  
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**TAVISTOCK ROYALS SR. "AA" HOCKEY**  
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### W.O.A.A. Senior "AA" Hockey Regular Season Standings

	GP	W	L	OTL	PTS
Ripley Wolves	13	9	4	3	21
Minto 81's	12	8	4	1	17
Saugeen Shores Winterhawks	13	8	5	1	17
Creemore Coyotes	11	8	3	1	17
Seaforth Centenaires	12	8	4	0	16
Durham Thundercats	12	7	5	1	15
Tavistock Royals	13	6	7	0	12
Georgian Bay Applekings	10	4	6	0	8
Erin Outlaws	11	3	4	1	7
Milverton Four Wheel Drivers	13	3	10	0	6
Lucknow Lancers	12	2	10	1	5

### PJHL STANDINGS South Doherty Division

	GP	W	L	OTL	T	PTS
Woodstock Navy Vets	23	20	2	1	0	41
New Hamburg Firebirds	24	17	6	1	0	35
Tavistock Braves	22	13	7	0	2	28
Norwich Merchants	23	8	10	4	1	21
Hespeler Shamrocks	23	8	14	1	0	17
Wellesley Applejacks	21	8	12	1	0	17
Paris Titans	24	4	18	1	1	10



COMMUNITY —

# Harvest season road safety week passes second week in Ontario legislature

By Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette Staff

Kitchener-Conestoga Member of Provincial Parliament (MPP) Mike Harris, along with colleagues from across all parties, debated a second reading of Bill 143. If passed, this private member's bill would designate the week starting with the third Monday of September each year as Harvest Season Road Safety Week.

The bill aims to increase road safety awareness across the province and actively contribute to reducing collisions. The third week of September provides a timely opportunity to remind all road participants about the crucial practice of safely sharing the road with farm vehicles.

"Members across party lines support our farmers for their hard work to ensure we can put good, safe food on our plates. In the Harris household, that's seven plates, so we have quite a few farmers to thank every day," said Mike Harris, Member of Provincial Parliament for Kitchener-Conestoga.

"Our government has taken many steps to promote agriculture, including the recent grow Ontario strategy, designed to increase production of food grown and consumed in the province. Increasing our food production also means protecting those farmers we share our roads and



A large green combine harvester is seen driving along a country road.

communities with."

When fall starts, rural Ontario experiences a surge in harvest activities, leading to more traffic and farm equipment on the roads. Traffic safety is important for pedestrians, drivers, and farmers alike. To prevent accidents and protect lives on our rural roads, promoting awareness of

the fall harvest season among all users of Ontario's rural roadways is essential. Elgin-Middlesex-London MPP Robert Flack initially introduced the bill, but he could not see it through the legislative process due to an appointment to cabinet.

"Each year, the Waterloo Regional Police Service undertakes a public information

campaign to remind motorists in the Region to be aware of increased farm equipment, such as tractors and combines, travelling on our rural and township roads. However, during Harvest Season, we continue to see traffic safety incidents by motorists with farming machines," said Scott Griffiths, Staff Sergeant Traffic Services Unit at the Waterloo Regional Police Service.

"By designating the third Monday of September each year, the Harvest Season Road Safety Week Act will bring useful public attention to this matter and hopefully is coupled with improved safe driving behaviour. WRPS joins with others to ask that during Harvest Season that all motorists please slow down and be patient while waiting until there is enough room on the road to safely pass."

"The National Farmers Union - Ontario is pleased to support Bill 143, the Harvest Season Road Safety Week Act," said Max Hansgen, NFU-O President. "We believe road safety awareness is critical for all motorists in Ontario, especially during harvest season when roads are busier and need to be shared safely with farmers and farm equipment. This legislation will help to keep our rural communities safer and encourage motorists to share our roadways."

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COMMUNITY —

# Wellesley Township seeking resident feedback on local recreation programs

By Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette Staff

Wellesley Township is in the process of completing a Parks and Recreation Master Plan, and is seeking resident feedback to help shape this plan.

The plan will help determine future needs and priorities for delivering parks, indoor and outdoor recreation facilities, services, events and programs to the township.

The questions ask about the age and ward of the participant, along with household composition. It asks whether the township, or other service providers, should

offer more programs or activities for residents. The survey also asks what type of programs should be offered, preferred program setting, who should offer the programs, and how projects should be funded. It asks whether there should be more special events offered in the township, and what local facilities and amenities the household currently uses.

The survey can be accessed at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WellesleyMPsurvey2>. It will be available until Tuesday, January 3, 2024.

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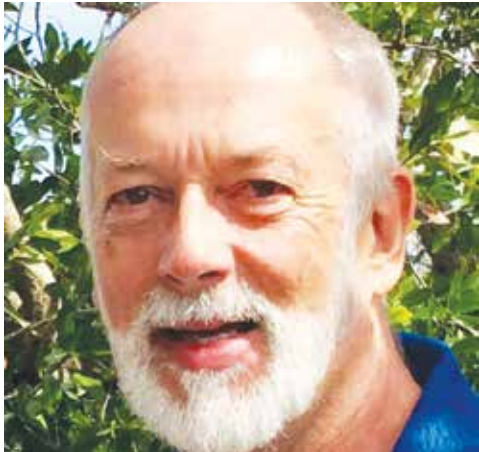
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## TRAVEL —

## OH, THE PLACES WE'LL GO: The challenge of saving coral reefs



By Paul Knowles

I'm just not a "lying on the beach" kind of guy. When I am in sunny climates, I like to be pretty active.

One of my favourite pastimes is snorkeling. Love it. Not that I am good at it – I snorkeled most recently with folks who have perfected the art of diving deep while wearing a snorkel and a mask. Not me. I'm the guy floating peacefully, face down, on the surface of the salt water, enjoying all of the underwater sites and hoping that some of those amazing fish will pay me an up-close visit. Which they usually do.

Until recently, I have taken snorkeling pretty much for granted – a wonderful pastime that I can enjoy every once in a while. But my affection for snorkeling has introduced me to some folks who have shared some pretty devastating news: the earth's coral reefs are dying. These beautiful oceanic features are in extreme danger. In fact, coral reefs are some of the world's most endangered ecosystems.

And while that may be sad news for snorkelers, that is the least of our problems, because coral reefs are among the most important parts of our global ecosystem. A quarter of all sea creatures depend on coral reefs. Coral reefs also mitigate the impact of severe storms. In short, if they go, we're all in trouble.

I have met coral reef restoration experts

in Key Largo, Grenada, and Dominica, over the past few months. Their dire warnings are always the same, although their proposed solutions are creatively different.

In the Florida Keys, we spent a highly information hour with Madalen Howard, of the Coral Restoration Foundation. We came away with feelings of horror and hope. Horror, because in the last few decades, some reefs in the Caribbean and Florida region have experienced 90 per cent loss. "Florida's coral reef has been the canary in the coal mine," according to Madalen. Hope, because the CRF is doing a lot in an attempt to reverse that terminal trend, creating "coral trees" – essentially, nurseries for living coral (which are animals, not plants) that have already produced 45,000 reef coral specimens to be returned to the reef. Madalen is proud that the CRF's work with coral trees is "at the forefront of innovation."

But given the threat to our reefs, that is still a drop in the bucket. More must be done.

Some of the work relates to solving problems that have endangered the reefs. Madalen pointed to issues like coastline development and pollution – including the discharge of untreated sewage. And – this hits snorkelers directly – the use of sunscreens that contain chemicals that kill coral. Now, I know – and I have changed sunblocks.

The biggest challenge will come as no surprise – climate change. The oceans are warming up; this causes coral bleaching, which leads to the death of the coral. Recent years have seen the "largest global coral bleaching event in history."

And we know that global warming has not been curtailed. In fact, a few months ago, many of the CRF's coral trees had to be moved to deeper water to avoid damage because of overwarm waters.

Last month, in Grenada, I met Phil Saye, founder of a different approach to saving coral – the "Pyramids of Grand

Anse." Phil and his colleagues have begun building artificial reefs, only a few dozen meters off the famous Grand Anse beach.

The pyramids are simple structures, built from cement blocks. The project now includes 80 pyramids; the site is overseen by Allie and Neal Mader of Dive Grenada.

Phil is frank in his assessment of the global challenge to coral reefs; he believes most or all will die, victims of the damage humans have done to the planet. Then, he asks, "What will happen to all the marine life? Where will they go?" He believes that simply pyramids "could be a global solution."

The pyramid project has certainly proven itself in this initial experiment. I snorkeled there, and discovered that an area that was once dead seabed is now home to 15 species of coral (growing on the pyramids), and 30 different species of fish (I didn't count, but was assured this was true – I know I saw a lot of diverse beauty). Perhaps most tellingly, the once-barren seabed around beyond the perimeter of the pyramids has come back to life, now a garden of undulating turtle grass. That has all happened since the first four pyramids were lowered into the water in 2014.

Perhaps the biggest challenge facing these coral restoration pioneers is funding. I heard this in Florida, in Grenada, and in Dominica, where another coral tree project is underway.

So the next time I casually slip on a mask and snorkel, and spend an hour in the magic kingdom of the underwater world, I had better spend an equal amount of time thinking about how I can help, in a practical sense. That's probably good advice for anyone who cares about our planet.

Paul Knowles is an author and travel writer, and President of the Travel Media Association of Canada. To contact Paul about travel, his books, or speaking engagements, email [pknowles@golden.net](mailto:pknowles@golden.net).



Madalen Howard, of the Coral Restoration Foundation in the Florida Keys. She is shown in front of a model "coral tree".



A visitor to the artificial reef in Grenada. (Photo by Allie Mader).



On lands, the pyramids also attract wildlife visitors.



Neal and Allie Mader, guardians of the artificial reefs in Grenada.



# COMMUNITY —

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## COMMUNITY CALENDAR - DECEMBER 2023

<b>December 14th</b> <b>Community Care Concepts Community Dining event</b> Taking place at 12 p.m. at the Wilmot Recreation Complex, 1291 Nafziger Road Baden. Community Care Concepts invites you to join for lunch, fellowship and entertainment. Cost is \$14, must register by calling 519-664-1900 or toll free 1-855-664-1900.	<b>December 16th</b> <b>Ugly Sweater Night</b> Taking place at New Hamburg Lanes from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. Join for a night of classic party music, disco and UV lights, and of course, holiday cheer.	<b>Line in Innerkip.</b>	<b>Tube page.</b>	519-664-1900 to toll free 1-855-664-1900.
<b>December 15th</b> <b>Christmas at the Castle</b> Taking place at Castle Kilbride at 10 a.m. to 11 a.m., with other options available. The table is set, the trees are trimmed, and the warmth and charm will kindle your holiday spirit. Tickets can be purchased on EventBrite.	<b>December 17th</b> <b>Santa Claus visiting the Legion</b> Santa Claus will be visiting the New Hamburg Legion on 65 Boullee Street from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Photos with Santa for \$5, goodie bags and face painting.	<b>December 25th</b> <b>Community Christmas Dinner</b> Will be alone or lonely this Christmas Day? Could you use some Christmas cheer? Wilmot Family Resource Centre (WFRC) has you covered. The dinner takes place at 12 p.m. noon at Steinmann Church, 1316 Snyder's Road West in Baden. Please register to attend by calling the WFRC at 519-662-2731.	<b>January 6th</b> <b>Sprucedale Public School Bottle Drive</b> To help support the Grade 8 class trip to Camp Celtic. Drop off location is the Shakespeare Optimist Club donation, open from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. Curbside pickup available. Leave empties at the road and they will be picked up.	<b>January 12th to January 14th</b> <b>2024 Kyla Kowalik Memorial Tournament</b> Taking place at the Wilmot Recreation Complex. Open to all local league U9, U11, U13, U15, U18 teams. Participation items and lunch for all players. Awards for the finalists and a guaranteed good time.
	<b>December 20th</b> <b>East Zorra Tavistock Council Meeting</b> In-person council meeting taking place at 7 p.m. at 695566 17th	<b>January 3rd</b> <b>Wilmot Council Meeting</b> Hybrid council meeting taking place at 60 Snyder's Road West in Baden at 6:45 p.m. Also streamed on the Township of Wilmot You-	<b>January 10th</b> <b>Community Care Concepts lunch</b> Taking place at 1,000 Maple Leaf Street in Wellesley at 12 p.m. Community Care Concepts invites you to join us for lunch and fellowship. Cost is \$14. Must register by January 5 by calling	<b>January 15th</b> <b>Blood Drive</b> Taking place at Wellesley Community Centre at 1,000 Maple Leaf Street, from around 3 p.m. until about 8 p.m. Booking times are available on <a href="http://www.blood.ca">www.blood.ca</a> .

**SUBMIT YOUR LETTER TO THE EDITOR TO US!**  
 email us at [thewtgazette@gmail.com](mailto:thewtgazette@gmail.com) (200 words or less)



OPINION —

# EXPERT ADVICE: *An Update from Tri-County Mennonite Homes*



**By Steven E. Harrison**

The month of November has been very busy for TCMH. To tackle human resource challenges that are heard of in all areas of the health and social services delivery sectors, TCMH has formed a partnership with Talent Beyond Boundaries (TBB) in Canada and has begun the process of international recruitment of staff to meet the growing need of our Homes. In November,

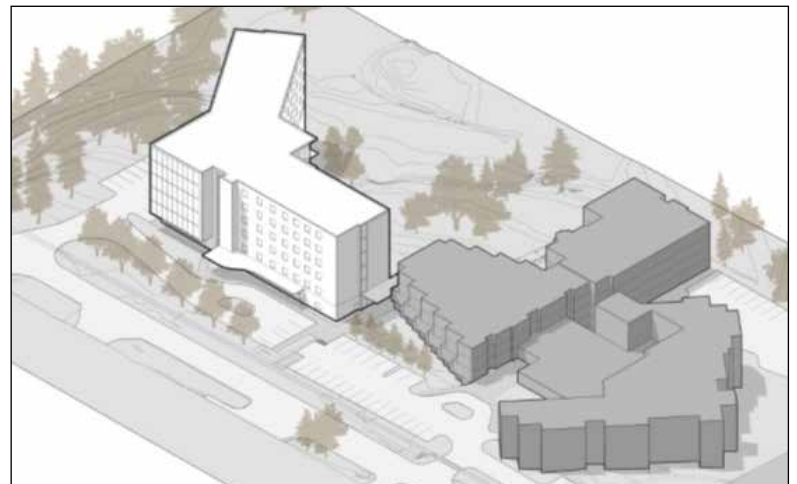
TCMH was part of a mission to Kenya seeking well-trained and eager candidates to immigrate to Canada and take up the challenge of filling the vacant spots in our staffing needs. We have successfully begun the recruitment process and expect the first cohort of individuals to be arriving in our community in the first half of 2024.

Additionally, we have spent a considerable amount of time and effort getting our new LTC development underway in New Hamburg. Initial stages of site preparation have begun, and it is anticipated that within a year, we will be preparing to break ground for our new Home. We are working now on the schematic designs for the Home, which will stand at the corner of Victoria and Boullee when completed. This will sit next to our current community and will be an expansion of our footprint



and service offerings to the community. Please watch for further updates – our efforts are moving rapidly.

With the holiday season ahead of us, I also wanted to offer you our sincerest best wishes. The best Christmas gifts are the ones we've had all year: a roof over



our heads, food in the cupboard, and family and friends to enjoy it with. As we celebrate and give thanks, what better time to tell you, our community, how grateful we are for your confidence in us at TCMH. Working with you to support those in our care and the community year-round is an

honor and a privilege, and we look forward to continuing our partnership next year.

From the entire team at TCMH, we wish you and your loved ones a very Merry Christmas, a happy holiday season, and a successful 2024 ahead!

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## 2023-24 HOLIDAY COLLECTION GARBAGE AND RECYCLING

### WILL YOUR COLLECTION DAY CHANGE?

Residences and businesses in Blandford-Blenheim, Tillsonburg, Norwich, South-West Oxford, and East Zorra-Tavistock will have regularly scheduled collection during the holidays.

### INGERSOLL (NORTH) AND ZORRA TOWNSHIP CHANGES

ORIGINAL DAY	NEW DAY
Monday, December 25	Saturday, December 23
Monday, January 1	Saturday, December 30

Remember to have all garbage bags and recycling bins to the curb by 7:00 a.m. on your collection day. When severe weather hits this winter, collection may be delayed or cancelled. Monitor local news, visit [www.wasteline.ca](http://www.wasteline.ca) or download the wasteline app to receive service alerts.

### LOCATED IN WOODSTOCK?

Please visit [www.cityofwoodstock.ca](http://www.cityofwoodstock.ca) for adjusted collection dates over the holidays.

### DON'T LET YOUR HOLIDAYS GO TO WASTE

Follow these simple steps for recycling:

1. Remove all tape, plastic film, twist ties and other decorative objects before recycling cardboard.
2. Break down, flatten and bundle all cardboard boxes, with bundles no larger than 75 x 75 x 20 centimetres.
3. Wrapping paper can be recycled, except for foil-based paper.
4. Remove all ribbons and bows. Save and reuse for next year where possible.
5. The bulky Styrofoam often found in larger gifts can be dropped off at the Oxford County Waste Management Facility, Tillsonburg Transfer Station and Woodstock EnviroDepot for recycling.

### HOLIDAY HOURS WASTE MANAGEMENT FACILITY

Monday – Friday from 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.  
Saturdays from 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

**CLOSED: Monday, December 25, 2023  
Tuesday, December 26, 2023  
Monday, January 1, 2024**



OPINION —

**EXPERT ADVICE: *DIY or Love Local for a chemical-free holiday home!***



By Mercedes Kay Gold

Holidays are a time to welcome family and friends, new and old, from near and far. Filling the house with festive scents like pine, cinnamon, citrus or fabulous floral can be hurtful or helpful. Is your space toxic? Celebrate this scent-sational season by going clean and green! Be mindful of all guests, asking them to refrain from wearing scents. Minimize headaches, dizziness, asthma, and sensory overload for partygoers. As a host, take the time to toss toxins, too.

Conventional candles compromise health. Paraffin or a paraffin blend is the go-to in the majority of wax candles in the marketplace. Paraffin is the bi-product of the petroleum industry. Leftover sludge is deodorized and chemically bleached before mixing in the candle wax. The addition of synthetic colors and smells offers an array of fun scents not found in nature, but once lit, toxic toluene, benzene, formaldehyde, and acetaldehyde, to name a few, become airborne. Inhaling chemicals released in second-hand smoke produced by conventional candles can cause headaches, but worse than that, they target the central nervous system. Toxins released into the air can increase the effects of asthma and are linked to cancer. Plant-based candles are key. Look for 100% plant-based can-

dles derived from soybean or coconut wax and candles with a cotton or wood wick. Choose candles with pure essential oils or phthalate-free fragrance oils.

Skip plugging in air fresheners. Relax and embrace tranquility with a diffuser. Diffusers emit essential oils into the air. Not only is the scent pleasant, but herbs can be helpful. Essential oils are the brain's natural painkiller, releasing feel-good endorphins. Rosemary is linked to enhanced memory, lavender to relaxation and peppermint may relieve a headache. For a sweet-smelling bathroom, Sacred Clearing Myst by local Earth Potion Apothecary is an all-star. Their version of magic in a bottle also makes a great gift for the yoga gurus in your life.

Prepare a chemical-free guest room for out-of-town guests and last-minute overnighters. Pre-wash towels and sheets in unscented, chemical-free detergents. Skip the mountain fresh fabric softeners and summer

rain dryer sheets. Go natural with white vinegar alongside 100% plant-based all-natural detergent in the washing cycle to eliminate odor and add softness.

The average woman uses twelve different beauty products each day, and men are catching up. Skin is the largest organ, absorbing everything you apply. One in eight of the 82,000 ingredients used in personal care products are industrial chemicals, according to U.S. researchers. To check your products, David Suzuki has compiled a list of the worst offenders or the "Dirty Dozen" and the Environmental Working Group (E.W.G) has a database of products for reference. Make the switch and start 2024 chemical-free.

Go chemical-free for you and the environment. Little Leaf All Natural Body Care Products is the perfect place to start shopping. All-natural and handcrafted with love by Tavistock resident, lady boss and mom-preneur, Emma Penner. Stock the show-

er with simple nature-based and non-toxic shower products. Swap bottles of shower gel, shampoo and conditioner for the bar form. Set a basket of bath bombs beside the tub for heavenly holiday soaks. The rose one is simply luxurious. There are deodorants, lip balms and moisturizers, plus so much more for a guest room basket to enjoy or take home. Emma also has a line for post-partum new mommas with heavenly herbs for holistic healing.

Feeling crafty? All Natural Room Fresheners are an inexpensive and family fun DIY. Simply slice grapefruit, oranges, lemons, and limes a maximum 1/4 inch thick. Using a mandolin allows thinner slices. Pat out excess moisture with a clean towel and spread out on a parchment-lined baking sheet. Bake 3-4 hours at 225 degrees Fahrenheit, flipping halfway through. They should be dried out. Cool citrus slices on a wire rack. Hang on colored ribbon or rustic twine and decorate. Dried fruit slices can also be used as a drink topper and des-

sert decoration.

DIY for a cozy, chemical-free kitchen. Place cinnamon sticks, orange and apple slices, a teaspoon of pure vanilla extract and whole cloves in a pot. For an extra boost, add a few drops of orange, cinnamon or clove essential oil. Simply cover it with water and leave it to simmer on the stove.

Happy, healthy holiday season ahead. Sending peace and love your way!



Slices of grapefruit, oranges, lemons and limes are ready for the oven to create a delightful, all-natural room freshener. Shelby Piltzmaker



Dried fruit can be hung on ribbon or twine to create beautiful and fragrant decor. They can also be the perfect topper for a holiday drink or dessert. Shelby Piltzmaker



Dried fruit combined with the fresh scent of pine is a wonderful addition to your holiday decor. Mercedes Kay Gold



All-natural, chemical-free soaps from Little Leaf All Natural Body Care Products. Nikki Rowe



An all-natural, handcrafted, rose-scented bath bomb made by Emma Penner

**Letter to the Editor:**

I would like to congratulate Keith Wagler on his heartfelt tribute to his friend the late Harry Baechler.

Back in the early 1960's, while playing hard ball in New Hamburg, there were rumours that New Hamburg was switching to fast ball in the near future, so myself and a couple of friends decided to join the midget fastball club

in Tavistock. Keith was the pitcher and Harry the catcher on that club. They not only welcomed us to the club but also became our friends. Also, Keith, thanks for the reminder to contact a good friend while we can!

Respectfully,  
Ken Leu  
St. Marys

**LOCAL MATTERS.**



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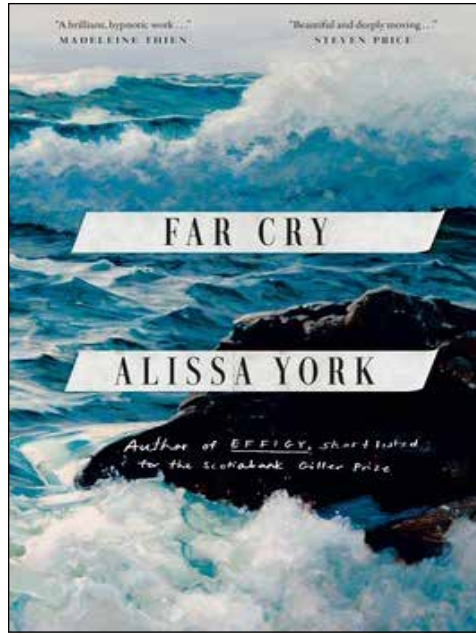
COMMUNITY —

# Far Cry by Alissa York

By Oxford County Library Staff

1922, the Far Cry Cannery at the north-western river inlets in British Columbia. Anders Viken, an immigrant from Norway and store clerk at the Cannery, begins writing an account of his life for his pseudo-niece, the recently orphaned Kit. Kit's mother ran off with a handsome cook years prior, and her father was found drowned next to his own skiff at the cannery, and now the 18-year-old Kit spends her time on the open waters, away from the Cannery manager's advances, and her own convoluted emotions about loss and love. All the while Anders sets his own reckoning to paper for her, detailing a life of hardship, forbidden love, and chosen family, of which only remains Kit.

A dense and melancholy read, the prose flows like viscous, bitter cream, which perfectly suits the harsh milieu of grey and blue spring at the Far Cry Cannery. Readers will find a heart wrenching tale of love, loss, and family at the core of this novel, which is currently nominated for the Forest of Reading's Evergreen award. It's no wonder that it's nominated; the profound Alissa York's narrative voice



delivers a true tour de force in the way it seamlessly slips back and forth between Kit and Anders, and interweaves their stories as much as their aching hearts.

# Getting the ducks in a row



It would be a bit challenging to get all these ducks in a row. About 140 feathered friends were hanging out on the seasonally-shrunken lake at Foxboro Green.

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— Christopher Hoile, Stage Door

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Photo 2: Randy Hughson, Graham Hargrove  
Main photo: George Meanwell  
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COMMUNITY —

# Perth County's Holstein Breeders



The large crowd of Perth County Holstein members gather for their annual meeting last week, and tour the quality milking herd that are milked robotically on the South Easthope farm of Larry Krantz, home of Carldot Holsteins.

By Gary West

A large crowd of Perth County Holstein members gathered recently at the "Master Breeder" herd of Carldot Holsteins, owned by South Easthope township's Larry Krantz.

They learned the Perth County organization has had another very successful year.

Working with a budget of close to \$37,000, the club reported on the busy activities of the organization for the past 12 months.

President Stefan Weber, from the St. Marys area, was pleased with the club's support of 4-H and youth programs, along with hosting a Breeders Cup competition and production sweepstakes, that also included Lactanet awards.

The club also held a very popular and successful twilight meeting, near Sebringville, at the Holstein farm of new milk producers, with a state of the art robot milking facility.

The Perth County Breeders also supported their annual club sale in October, to bring in funds to help finance the club and thanked Dave Carson and his sales staff from Listowel, for continuing to sponsor their annual sale.



Larry Krantz welcomed Perth County Holstein breeders to Carldot Holsteins for their annual meeting, last week on his farm west of Tavistock.

# A Holiday Feast



Inside the D.H. Becker Store in New Hamburg.

By Castle Kilbride Staff using items from the Archival Collection at Castle Kilbride

Information provided by the diary entries of Ida Poth

The end of every year marks the time for the celebration for many residents of Wilmot Township. For Ida Poth, December 1944 brought the warm celebration of Christmas. During the holiday season, Mrs. Poth's home was filled with the familiar scents of cinnamon and nutmeg as well as the bright twinkle of Christmas decorations. With all these sights and smells, one can only imagine the sound of Judy Garland's Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas playing in the background.

Through the entries of Mrs. Poth's 1944 diary, it was clear that the preparations for December 24th and 25th started days in advance. In the lead-up to the celebration on December 22nd, she was busy preparing homemade pie dough and mince filling. On the 23rd, she dressed three chickens and combined the baking from the day before to make minced pies. Later in the evening of the 23rd, Mrs. Poth made freshly popped popcorn.

On December 24th, Mrs. Poth recounts the Christmas Eve feast that she set out for her loved ones to enjoy. "For dinner we had roast chicken, dressing, mashed potatoes, cabbage, corn, mince pie, cookies, Christmas cake, grapes, popcorn candy,

olives, cauliflower and pickles." On the 25th, she made a similar meal but with roast duck instead of chicken. The spread of food was sure to be piled high on both nights!

To set out such a large meal, Mrs. Poth would have had to visit grocers to put together her Christmas Dinner. Using advertisements from the time, her one-stop shop may have been Becker's Department Store of New Hamburg or Herman Kavelman's in New Dundee. In the lead-up to Christmas, local general stores had a rotation of sales happening each weekend. Sales for the main dish included Libby's Home-Made style Pickles for \$0.29, a 10 lbs. bag of potatoes for \$0.35, and canned corn for \$0.25. For Desserts and snacks, Mrs. Poth may have taken advantage of the sales on popping corn for \$0.15, Peach Brand Pastry Flower in a 7 lbs. bag for \$0.25, almond icing tin for \$0.39 and cut mixed peels for \$0.17. For the remaining items for her festive dinner, she could also rely on items she may have canned herself in prior months and local poultry farmers.

Ida Poth's diary is on display at Castle Kilbride for a short time! To see Mrs. Poth's accounts and other examples of festive recipes and grocer advertisements, visit Castle Kilbride and explore the museum's exhibit, Whisked Up in Wilmot before it ends January 7th, 2024!



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Two strong people to lift a hutch onto a buffet in my basement. 15 mins maximum. Tavistock. Call Jim 519 378 8556.

**Wanted**

Used greeting cards from the 50's, 60's, 70's, 80's. Baby, Birthday, Get Well, Christmas etc. cards. 519-616-3379

**Prayer to the blessed virgin (never known to fail)**

Oh, most beautiful flower of Mt.Carmal fruitful vine, Splendor of Heaven, Blessed Mother of the son of God. Immaculate Virgin, assist me in my necessity, O star of the sea, help me and show me here in this necessity. There are none that can withstand your power. Oh, show me herein you are my mother, Oh Mary, Conceived without sin pray for us who have recourse to thee. ( three times).

Holy Spirit you who solve all problems, light all roads so that I can attain my goal you who gave me the Devine gift to forgive and forget all evil against me, I want in this short prayed to thank you for all things as you confirm once again that I never want to be separated from you the eternal glory. Thank you for your mercy towards me and mine. (The person must say this prayer three consecutive days. after Three days the request will be granted this prayer must be published after the favour is granted) C.V Jn31 Kevin Straus

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- |                    |                    |
|--------------------|--------------------|
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| 2) Juniper Berries | 7) Winter solstice |
| 3) 24 ribs         | 8) Freddie Mercury |
| 4) New Delhi       | 9) Yen             |
| 5) A murder        | 10) Green          |

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